

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 019793
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-02 ISO-00 /001 R

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O: LFLEISCHER

APPROVED BY: S/S-O LFLEISCHER

-----000750 251048Z /23

O 250955Z JAN 78 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 019793

EXDIS DIST AS NODIS, FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT SEOUL 0677 SENT ACTION SECSTATE TOKYO JAN 25.

QUOTE S E C R E T SEOUL 0677

EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE

TOKYO FOR AMBASSADOR SNEIDER ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV KS US

SUBJ: ROKG CONCERN OVER CONGRESSIONAL ACTIONS

REF: STATE 19293

1. CHARGE ACCOMPANIED BY POL COUNSELOR CALLED ON FONMIN AFTERNOON
JAN 25 TO PROVIDE BRIEFING ON CONTENTS REFTEL. HE NOTED SPEAKER
WAS GRATIFIED WITH PROGRESS TO DATE AND HOPED TO CALM DOWN ACTI-
VITIES ON THE HILL. CHARGE SAID WE DID NOT EXPECT ANY ACTION
ON THE RESOLUTION IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. HE AGAIN EXPRESSED
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 019793

HOPE THAT ROK WOULD CONTINUE TO EXERCISE PATIENCE ON THIS MATTER
AND CONTINUE TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE POSITIVE ASPECTS OF
THE MATTER. HE SAID THAT THE RETURN OF AMBASSADOR KIM TO
WASHINGTON AT THE EARLIEST DATE AND A FURTHER DISCUSSION
WITH THE SPEAKER SHOULD BE VERY HELPFUL.

2. FONMIN WAS APPRECIATIVE OF THE INFORMATION RECEIVED

AND AGAIN EXPRESSED BASIC POSITION OF ROKG AS ONE OF COOPERATION WITH THE US. HE NOTED HOWEVER THAT HE UNDERSTOOD A RESOLUTION SIMILAR TO THAT IN THE HOUSE HAD BEEN INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE BY SENATOR WEICKER. HE AGAIN SAID THAT DIRECT PUBLIC PRESSURE IN THE US MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO TAKE INITIATIVE ON POSITIVE STEPS TO RESOLVE THIS MATTER. WHILE HE UNDERSTOOD DOMESTIC POLITICAL PRESSURE FOR STATEMENTS IN THE US, HE URGED GREATER CONSIDERATION OF FOREIGN RELATIONS IMPACT OF SUCH STATEMENTS.

3. CHARGE NOTED ADMINISTRATION EFFORTS OVER RECENT DAYS TO EMPHASIZE POSITIVE AND ENDURING ASPECTS OF US-ROK RELATIONSHIP. HE AGAIN ADVOCATED CONCENTRATION ON THE POSITIVE AND RESTRAINT ON THE PART OF THE ROKG.

4. FONMIN SAID THAT THIS WAS HIS BASIC POSITION AS WELL. HE SAID AMB KIM WOULD DEPART SEOUL ON SATURDAY, JAN 28 AND WOULD BE ARRIVING IN WASHINGTON AROUND TUESDAY, JAN 31.

5. COMMENT: FONMIN INDICATED HE HAD REFUSED TO RESPOND TO PRESS REQUESTS FOR REACTION TO WASHINGTON DEVELOPMENTS, (ALTHOUGH LOWER RANKING OFFICIAL DID COMMENT). BELIEVE HE WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE THIS LINE UNLESS PRESSURE IS INCREASED FROM OUR SIDE.

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SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 019793

STERN UNQUOTE VANCE

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